

Graph Theory

Chapter 3. Connected Graphs

3.5. Cycle Double Covers—Proofs of Theorems

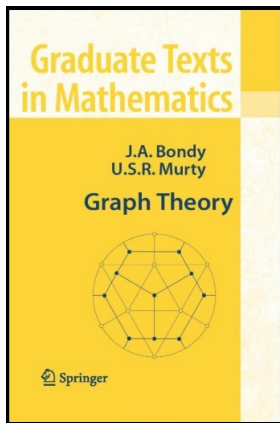


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Proof. Let family $\mathcal{C} = \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_\ell\}$ be a cycle covering of a graph G in which each edge of G is covered at most twice. The symmetric difference

$$\Delta\{E(C) \mid C \in \mathcal{C}\} = (\cdots((C_1 \Delta C_2) \Delta C_3) \cdots \Delta C_\ell)$$

is the set of edges of G which are covered just once by \mathcal{C} (associativity of the symmetric difference is shown in Exercise 2.6.2(a)).

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